To show their sincerity for solving this problem, will the Madras Government please write immediately inviting the Andhra Government for talks?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : No proof is necessary to establish our sincerity in this matter, and that question does not arise at all. We have already written to the Central Government that a boundary commission should be appointed. That request has not yet been rejected. The question of writing to the Andhra Government will arise only after final decisions are taken with reference to the various territories which are in dispute like Bellary and Kolar and issues like Visalandhra.

MR. SPEAKER : Question time is over.

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

III.—STATEMENT UNDER RULE 40 *RE* THE PREVALENCE OF PADDY CROP DISEASE IN TANJORE DISTRICT.

MR. SPEAKER : Under rule 40, Sri P. Venkatesha Sholagar will call the attention of the Minister for Health to a matter of urgent public importance, viz., the attack of a peculiar disease known as ' Kulai Noi ' on the paddy crop in the district of Tanjore. The Hon. Minister for Health is not here. Besides, as this is a matter coming within the portfolio of the Hon. Minister for Agriculture, he will make the statement.

10-23 a.m. * **SRI P. VENKATESHA SHOLAGAR** : கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, இந்த கொக்கி நோயினால் தஞ்சாவூரிலுள்ள சம்பாப் பயிர், தாளடிப் பயிர் முதலியவற்றுக்கு மிகுந்த சேதம் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது. நான் மன்னார்குடி தாலூகா விவசாய ஆபீசுக்குச் சென்று இதைப்பற்றி விசாரித்தேன். நூற்றுக்கணக்கான விவசாயிகள் இம்மாதிரியாக பூச்சியினால் வீணாகப் போய்விட்ட கதிர்களைக்கொண்டுவந்தும் காட்டினார்கள். அந்தப் பூச்சிகளிடமிருந்து பயிர்களைக் காபந்து செய்ய அவர்கள் ஒரு வழியும் சொல்லவில்லை. பெரும் அளவு புயலினாலும், வெள்ளத்திலும் சேதம் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கும். அந்த ஜில்லாவில் அதிக உரம் செய்ததும், பூச்சியின் காரணமாய் சேதம் ஏற்படுவதால் விவசாயிகள் மிகவும் பாதிக்கப்பட்டு கஷ்டப்படுகிறார்கள். பூச்சியினால் பாதிக்கப்பட்ட நிலங்கள் உடையவர்களுக்கும், இன்னும் பாதிக்கப்படுகிறவர்களுக்கும் உதவி செய்வதற்காக சர்க்கார் குறைந்த பட்சம் வரி வஜாவாவது செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

* THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Sir " Kulai Noi " or blast disease as it is called is a very serious fungus disease on paddy and attacks the plants at different stages. If it is not checked in the initial stages through adoption of remedial measures, it may lead to chaffiness of the entire ear-head and loss of yield. The severity of the disease can be minimised by spraying the affected crops with 1 per cent Bordeaux Mixture or any copper fungicides like Perenox, Cupravite Fungi Copper (a combination of copper sulphate and lime). When the neck is affected, ear-heads become chaffy and the crop is a complete failure. In such cases the fields present a scorched-up appearance.

30th January 1956] [Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam]

The first infection on the leaves was noticed in the nurseries at Annavasal, Moolangudi of Mannargudi taluk. Remedial measures were immediately taken and the disease was brought under check. Intensive propaganda was immediately carried on by the Agricultural extension staff. The Collector also was requested on 26th December 1955 to give wide publicity to the existence of the disease through revenue staff. The All-India Radio was requested to announce the prevalence of the disease indicating the remedial and control measures to be adopted in their farmers programmes. The entire district of Tanjore has been declared pest-affected by the Collector at the instance of the Agricultural Department as early as 13th October 1955. The total area affected by blast in the entire Tanjore district is estimated to be 3,000 acres. Of this 60 per cent (1,800 acres) is reported to show neck infection. The area having neck infection has to be considered as completely lost.

The Agriculture Department have evolved paddy strains which are resistant to blast disease. Co25 and ADT 25 are two of the most popular blast-resistant strains which are suited to the Tanjore district. Seeds of these two strains are available in the agricultural depots. I myself saw in Tanjore yesterday that plants of Co 25 and ADT 25 were completely unaffected by this disease, while the plants of other local strains were affected. I may assure the hon. Member that the Government are doing everything that they can by way of propaganda and by adoption of measures to check the incidence of this disease.

IV.—PRESENTATION OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON SUBORDINATE LEGISLATION.

SRI S. S. KOLKEBAIL (Chairman of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation) : Sir, I beg to present the first report[a] of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation.

V.—NON-OFFICIAL RESOLUTION *RE* SESSION OF THE LEGISLATURE AT OOTACAMUND.

* SRI P. T. RAJAN : Mr. Speaker, I beg to move the resolution that stands in my name—

"That this House recommends to the Government to make arrangements for holding the sittings of the Legislature in Ootacamund in April or May 1956."

There may possibly be two arguments against the acceptance of this resolution. One is on the ground of the extra cost involved which, I believe, is about fifty thousand rupees. The other is that a party which had opposed exodus to the hills once will have to go back on the stand it took if it were to accept this resolution.

I have been a regular visitor to Ootacamund ever since 1921, because Ootacamund was the summer headquarters of the Government of Madras. Almost all the Select Committees met there every

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[a] Printed as Appendix VI on pages 350–375 *infra*.